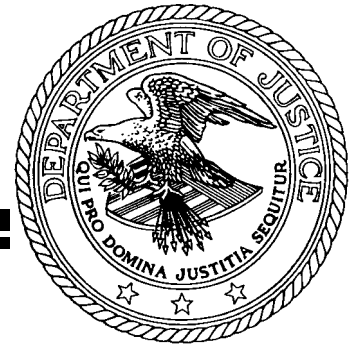


# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Carol C. Lam***

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***For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U.S. Attorney Shanna L. Dougherty (619) 557-5482***

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***For Immediate Release***

**NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - January 22, 2004**

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam today announced the unsealing of an indictment charging ASTRID K. TEPATTI and EBONY P. WOODS with the attempted murder of Stephen James Tepatti, a Camp Pendleton-based Marine Sergeant who is the husband of defendant TEPATTI.

The indictment alleges that on January 4, 2004, the defendants, TEPATTI and WOODS, attempted to kill Stephen James Tepatti by shooting at him with a firearm when Sgt. Tepatti was at his home on the United States Marine Corps base at Camp Pendleton, California.

Defendants TEPATTI and WOODS were arraigned on the indictment earlier today before the Honorable Leo S. Papas, United States Magistrate Judge, in San Diego, California. Both TEPATTI and WOODS entered not guilty pleas to the charges.

Prior to the issuance of the indictment, the defendants were arraigned on a criminal complaint, which also charged the defendants with attempted murder. On January 13, 2004, Judge Papas ordered that

defendant WOODS be detained without bail on that charge. Defendant TEPATTI later agreed not to contest the Government's motion to detain her without bail.

The defendants are scheduled to appear next on February 26, 2004 at 2:30 p.m., before the Honorable John S. Houston, United States District Judge, for motion setting.

This indictment was the result of the investigation of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Oceanside Police Department, and the California Highway Patrol.

### **DEFENDANTS**

1. ASTRID K. TEPATTI
2. EBONY P. WOODS

### **SUMMARY OF CHARGE**

Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1113 (Attempted Murder) and 2 (Aiding and Abetting)  
Maximum Penalty: Twenty years incarceration and \$250,000 fine.

### **AGENCIES**

Naval Criminal Investigative Service  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Oceanside Police Department  
California Highway Patrol

**An indictment is not evidence that the defendants committed the crime charged. The defendants are presumed innocent until the United States meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.**